

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities – unofficial minutes

The Chairman, Leonard Bertin, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm
Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

Present:	L. Bertin, member	C. Buchanan, member
	A. Done, member	K. Gauri, member
	D. House, member	N. Johnson, member
	D. Kuschinsky, member	D. Pietron, member
	J. Rodgers, member	

Also

Present:	M. Grusnick, staff
	M. McGinnis, staff

Absent:	S. Burt, alternate	P. Manetta, alternate
	J. Shah. Alternate	N. Raheb, student rep

ITEM B - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2003

Buchanan attended meeting with Bertin of the MS Society instead of Burt that was reported in the March Minutes, with this correction Bertin made a motion that the Minutes of March 5, 2003 be approved. Supported by Kuschinsky. All voted in favor.

ITEM C - VISITORS, DELEGATIONS AND GENERAL PUBLIC

ITEM D - NEW BUSINESS

Bertin attended the last City Council meeting where C Broomfield supported the subject of granting a discount on golf carts at the Sylvan Glenn Golf Course to persons with disabilities. Since seniors are offered a discount, it was decided to offer a 25% discount to persons with disabilities.

The Disabilities Committee was asked to recommend some criteria to identify a disability. Some suggestions presented were as follows:

A doctor's diagnosis, physical appearance, a registration I D Card from an organization such as the MS Society, or a medi care card were discussed. Bertin stated that it would be more advantageous if the Community Center could register interested individuals with a disability since they currently offer a similar discount for membership. For now it was decided that a doctors written diagnosis should be acceptable for obtaining the discount.

Nancy Kuha will no longer be implementing the Home Chore Program for the City; she has transferred to a new position. At the time of this meeting her replacement had not been announced. Bertin stated that he would like the person that replaces her come to a meeting of the Disabilities Committee as soon as practical for them.

K Gauri attended a meeting on the Area Agency on Aging as a representative of the Disabilities Committee. Gauri reported that most of the meeting consisted of the description of the budget crunch in the state. They are experiencing 30 to 40 % cuts from their past budget, 28% of the people they serve have some kind of disability.

Bertin and Buchanan attended the MS Advocacy Group meeting in Lansing on March 13, 2003. Buchanan reported that it was a good meeting with Senators Johnson and Pappageorge, and one of the issues has good news, they have opened up the Medicaid Buy In for people to return to work.

Bertin also stated that at the last City Council meeting Pappageorge stated that he learned a lot at this meeting about the daily expenses associated with MS.

ITEM E - REGULAR BUSINESS

Grusnick stated that in the future people who need access to City Hall after hours will need to use the west or north entrance. For security purposes the east and main entrances will be locked.

ITEM F - OLD BUSINESS

Johnson brought a video for the Committee to view about the activities of the Michigan Youth Leadership Forum. Bertin stated that this video could be played at the Committees booth at the Referral and Information Fair at the Troy Daze Fair in September. Gauri will ask C Stewart if there would be time available to show this video on our local TV station.

D Pietron will attend the April 14, 2003 City Council meeting and D House will attend the Council meeting on April 28, 2003.

ITEM G - INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ITEM H - ADJOURN

C Buchanan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. D Pietron seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

MG:mm